# From Infinitary Term Rewriting to Cyclic Term Graph Rewriting and back 

Patrick Bahr<br>paba@diku.dk<br>University of Copenhagen<br>Department of Computer Science

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## Outline

(1) Infinitary Term Rewriting
(2) Term Graph Rewriting

- Partial Order Model of Infinitary Rewriting
- Convergence on Term Graphs
(3) Outlook


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(2) Term Graph Rewriting

- Partial Order Model of Infinitary Rewriting
- Convergence on Term Graphs


## Non-Terminating Rewriting Systems

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- specification of infinite data structures, e.g. streams


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from (0)

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intuitively this converges to the infinite list $0: 1: 2: 3: 4: 5$ :

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## What is infinitary rewriting?

- formalises the outcome of an infinite reduction sequence
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- deals with (potentially) infinite terms


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## Why consider infinitary rewriting?

- model for lazy functional programming
- semantics for non-terminating systems
- semantics for process algebras
- arises in cyclic term graph rewriting


## Formalising Infinitary Term Rewriting

Complete metric on terms

- terms are endowed with a complete metric in order to formalise the convergence of infinite reductions.
- metric distance between terms:

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\mathbf{d}(s, t)=2^{-\operatorname{sim}(s, t)}
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$\operatorname{sim}(s, t)=$ minimum depth $d$
s.t. $s$ and $t$ differ at depth $d$

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- $\operatorname{sim}(s, t)=$ maximum depth $d$ s.t. truncated at depth $d, s$ and $t$ are equal


## Example



## Weak Convergence of Transfinite Reductions

Weak convergence via metric d

- convergence in the metric space $\left(\mathcal{T}^{\infty}(\Sigma, \mathcal{V}), \mathbf{d}\right)$
- depth of the differences between the terms has to tend to infinity


## Example: Weak Convergence

from

from $(x) \rightarrow x:$ from $(s(x))$

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## Transfinite Reductions

## Example (Infinite lists)

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\operatorname{zip}(n i l, y) & \rightarrow \text { nil } \\
\operatorname{zip}(x, n i l) & \rightarrow \text { nil } \\
\operatorname{zip}\left(x: x^{\prime}, y: y^{\prime}\right) & \rightarrow(x, y): \operatorname{zip}\left(x^{\prime}, y^{\prime}\right)
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zip(from(0), a : b:c:nil)

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final outcome is a finite term!

## Strong Convergence of Transfinite Reductions

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Strong convergence via increasing redex depth

- conservative underapproximation of convergence in the metric space
- rewrite rules have to be applied at (eventually) increasingly large depth
- the limit is then defined by the metric space
$\rightsquigarrow$ for strong convergence the depth of redexes has to tend to infinity

Example: Weakly but not Strongly Converging

$f(g(x)) \rightarrow f(g(g(x)))$

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Example: Weakly and Strongly Converging

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## Moving to Term Graphs - Why?

## Simulating infinitary term rewriting

- term graphs allow to finitely represent rational terms
- certain infinite term reductions can be represented as finite term graph reductions [Kennaway et al.]
- infinitary term rewriting $\Leftrightarrow$ cyclic term graph rewriting?


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Calculi with explicit sharing and recursion

- adding letrec to $\lambda$-calculus breaks confluence
- however: unique infinite normal forms can be defined [Ariola \& Blom]
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We need a infinitary rewriting counterpart on term graphs!

## Convergence on Term Graph Reductions - How?

A metric on term graphs?

- a metric seems too "unstructured" for the rich structure of term graphs
- how should sharing be captured by the metric?
- what is an appropriate notion of depth in a term graph?


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- but: maybe we can obtain a metric space in the end


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Infinitary term rewriting with more structure

- borrowing from domain theory
- partial orders have been widely used to obtain a more structure view on terms


## Partial Order Model of Infinitary Rewriting

Described on the example of terms
Partial order on terms

- partial terms: terms with additional constant $\perp$ (read as "undefined")
- partial order $\leq_{\perp}$ reads as: "is less defined than"
- $\leq_{\perp}$ is a complete semilattice ( $=$ cpo + glbs of non-empty sets)


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## Convergence

- formalised by the limit inferior:

$$
\liminf _{\iota \rightarrow \alpha} t_{\iota}=\bigsqcup_{\beta<\alpha} \prod_{\beta \leq \iota<\alpha} t_{\iota}
$$

- intuition: eventual persistence of nodes of the terms
- weak convergence: limit inferior of the terms of the reduction
- strong convergence: limit inferior of the contexts of the reduction


## An Example

Reduction sequence for $f(x, y) \rightarrow f(y, x)$


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## Properties of the Partial Order Model on Terms

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Theorem (total $p$-convergence $=m$-convergence)
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(weak convergence)
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## A Partial Order on Term Graphs - How?

## Specialise on terms

- Consider terms as term trees (i.e. term graphs with tree structure)
- How to define the partial order $\leq_{\perp}$ on term trees?
- We need a means to substitute ' $\perp$ 's.


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$\perp$-homomorphisms $\varphi: g \rightarrow_{\perp} h$
- homomorphism condition suspended on $\perp$-nodes
- allow mapping of $\perp$-nodes to arbitrary nodes

A $\perp$-Homomorphism


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## $\perp$-Homomorphisms as a Partial Order

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For all $s, t \in \mathcal{T}^{\infty}\left(\Sigma_{\perp}\right): \quad s \leq_{\perp} t \quad$ iff $\quad \exists \varphi: s \rightarrow_{\perp} t$

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Alas, $\leq_{\perp}^{1}$ has some quirks!

- introduces sharing
- total term graphs not necessarily maximal

- but: we should not dismiss it too fast!


## Avoiding Sharing

## Definition (injective $\perp$-homomorphisms)

For all $g, h \in \mathcal{G}^{\infty}\left(\Sigma_{\perp}\right)$, let $g \leq_{\perp}^{2} h$ be defined iff there is some $\varphi: g \rightarrow_{\perp} h$ injective on all (non- $\perp$-) nodes.

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## Goal

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## What is sharing?

- a node $n$ is shared if it is reachable via multiple paths from the root
- the set of all paths $\mathcal{P}_{g}(n)$ to a node describes its sharing


## Sharing-Preserving $\perp$-homomorphisms

## Definition

For all $g, h \in \mathcal{G}^{\infty}\left(\Sigma_{\perp}\right)$, let $g \leq_{\perp}^{3} h$ be defined iff there is some $\varphi: g \rightarrow_{\perp} h$ with $\mathcal{P}_{g}(n)=\mathcal{P}_{h}(\varphi(n))$ for all non- $\perp$-nodes $n$ in $g$.

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We only consider the set $\mathcal{P}_{g}^{a}(n)$ of minimal paths to $n$.

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Strong convergence on term graphs

- what is a proper notion of strong convergence?
- using the partial order approach might again be helpful


## Outline

## (1) Infinitary Term Rewriting

(2) Term Graph Rewriting

- Partial Order Model of Infinitary Rewriting
- Convergence on Term Graphs
(3) Outlook


## Back to Term Graph Rewriting

Partial order approach to infinitary term rewriting

- more fine grained notion of convergence
- reductions always converge $\rightsquigarrow$ semantics
- naturally captures meaningless terms


## Strong Convergence on Orthogonal System

Metric convergence

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Theorem ( $m$-convergence + Böhm extension $=p$-convergence) If $\mathcal{R}$ is an orthogonal TRS and $\mathcal{B}$ the Böhm extension of $\mathcal{R}$, then

$$
s \stackrel{p_{\rightarrow}}{\mathcal{R}} \text { } t \quad \text { iff } \quad s{ }^{m_{\rightarrow \mathcal{B}}} t
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## Further Steps

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## Higher-Order Systems

- application to $\lambda$-calculus with letrec?

